

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A handset comprising:

a housing having a display and first keypad, the first keypad being removeably coupled to the housing;

circuitry within the housing, the circuitry adapted to interface with the display and the first keypad; and

a second keypad, the second keypad exchangeable with the first keypad;

wherein the second keypad is adapted to replace the first keypad on the housing when the first keypad is removed from the housing.

2. The handset of claim 1 wherein the circuitry is adapted to detect whether the first keypad or the second keypad is interfacing with the circuitry.

3. The handset of claim 1 wherein the circuitry is adapted to detect a first resistance of the first keypad or a second resistance of the second keypad where the first resistance is different than the second resistance.

4. The handset of claim 1 wherein the first keypad has a different number of keys than the second keypad.

5. The handset of claim 1 further comprising an illumination source, wherein the illumination source

illuminates the first or second keypad when the first or second keypad is coupled to the housing.

6. The handset of claim 5 wherein the first or second keypad are transparent or semi-transparent.

7. The handset of claim 1 wherein the first keypad has a larger number of keys than the second keypad and wherein the second keypad has larger keys than the first keypad.

8. The handset of claim 1 wherein the first keypad is adapted to be used with a cordless telephone application and wherein the second keypad is adapted to be used with a game application.

9. A handset comprising:

a housing having a cordless telephone display and a telephone keypad; and

telephone circuitry within the housing, the telephone circuitry adapted to interface with the telephone keypad and the cordless telephone display;

a first keypad removeably coupled to the housing; and

a second keypad, the second keypad exchangeable with the first keypad;

wherein the second keypad is adapted to be removeably coupled to the housing when the first keypad is removed from the housing.

10. The handset of claim 9 wherein the first keypad at least partially conceals the telephone keypad.

11. The handset of claim 9 wherein the telephone circuitry is adapted to detect whether the first keypad or the second keypad is interfacing with the telephone circuitry.

12. The handset of claim 9 wherein the telephone circuitry is adapted to detect a first resistance of the first keypad or a second resistance of the second keypad where the first resistance is different than the second resistance.

13. The handset of claim 9 wherein the first keypad has a larger number of keys than the second keypad and wherein the second keypad has larger keys than the first keypad.

14. The handset of claim 9 wherein the first keypad further comprises a camera interface.

15. A method of exchanging a keypad of a cordless handset comprising the steps of:

providing a housing having a display and first keypad, the first keypad being removable from the housing;

providing a second keypad, the second keypad being exchangeable with the first keypad;

removing the first keypad from the housing; and

replacing the first keypad with the second keypad on the housing.

16. The method of exchanging a keypad of claim 15 further comprising the step of providing circuitry within the housing, the circuitry being adapted to interface with the display and the first keypad.

17. The method of exchanging a keypad of claim 15 further comprising the step of sensing presence of the second keypad.

18. The method of exchanging a keypad of claim 17 wherein the step of sensing presence of the second keypad comprises sensing a resistance of the second keypad.

19. The method of exchanging a keypad of claim 15 further comprising the step of changing a user application of the cordless handset.

20. The method of exchanging a keypad of claim 15 further comprising the step of illuminating the second keypad.

21. A handheld electronic device comprising:

a housing;

circuitry disposed in the housing, the circuitry including a controller programmed to operate the circuitry in accordance with a predetermined characteristic of the electronic device; and

a user interface mounted to the housing for interfacing with the circuitry, the user interface being selected from a number of different user interfaces having different predetermined interface characteristics.

22. The device of claim 21, wherein the user interface has a predetermined interface characteristic corresponding to the predetermined characteristic of the device.

23. A handheld electronic device comprising:

a housing:

circuitry disposed in the housing, the circuitry including a controller programmed to operate the circuitry and provide the device with multiple applications; and

an interchangeable user interface removably mounted to the housing for interfacing with the circuitry, the user interface being interchangeable with a number of different interchangeable user interfaces with different predetermined characteristics.

24. The device in claim 23, wherein when the interchangeable user interface is interchanged with another of the number of different interchangeable user interfaces the device is changed from a first application to a second application.